

authorized to be made, and, on behalf of the United States of America, should recognize the independence of the Philippines:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARRY S. TRUMAN, President of the United States of America, acting under and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the aforesaid act of Congress, do proclaim that, in accord with and subject to the reservations provided for in the applicable statutes of the United States, The United States of America hereby withdraws and surrenders all rights of possession, supervision, jurisdiction, control, or sovereignty now existing and exercised by the United States of America in and over the territory and people of the Philippines; and,

I, as President of the United States of America, I do hereby recognize the independence of the Philippines as a separate and sovereign nation and acknowledge the authority and competence of the government instituted by the people of the Philippines under the constitution now in force.

I, therefore, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this Fourth day of July

in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred and forty-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventy-first.

By the President:

SEAL OF THE
OFFICE OF THE
ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE

Acting Secretary of State

JUL 8 11 53 AM '46

Proclamation of the Independence of the Philippines, Signed by President Harry S. Truman (1946)

In granting independence to the Philippine Islands, the United States took a step unparalleled in the history of colonial administration. We remained true to our own history of liberty and self-government and kept our promise to the Filipinos, whose loyal support was so valuable in World War II. For more than 30 years the United States guided the Philippines in the ways of democratic government, and in 1934 the Congress passed the Philippine Independence Act providing for complete freedom 10 years after the inauguration of a new Commonwealth Government. But 10 years later World War II was raging. As soon after the end of that conflict as possible, however, independence was proclaimed. It is fitting that the Proclamation of Independence the original of which, signed by President Truman, is shown was issued on our Independence Day, July 4, 1946.

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